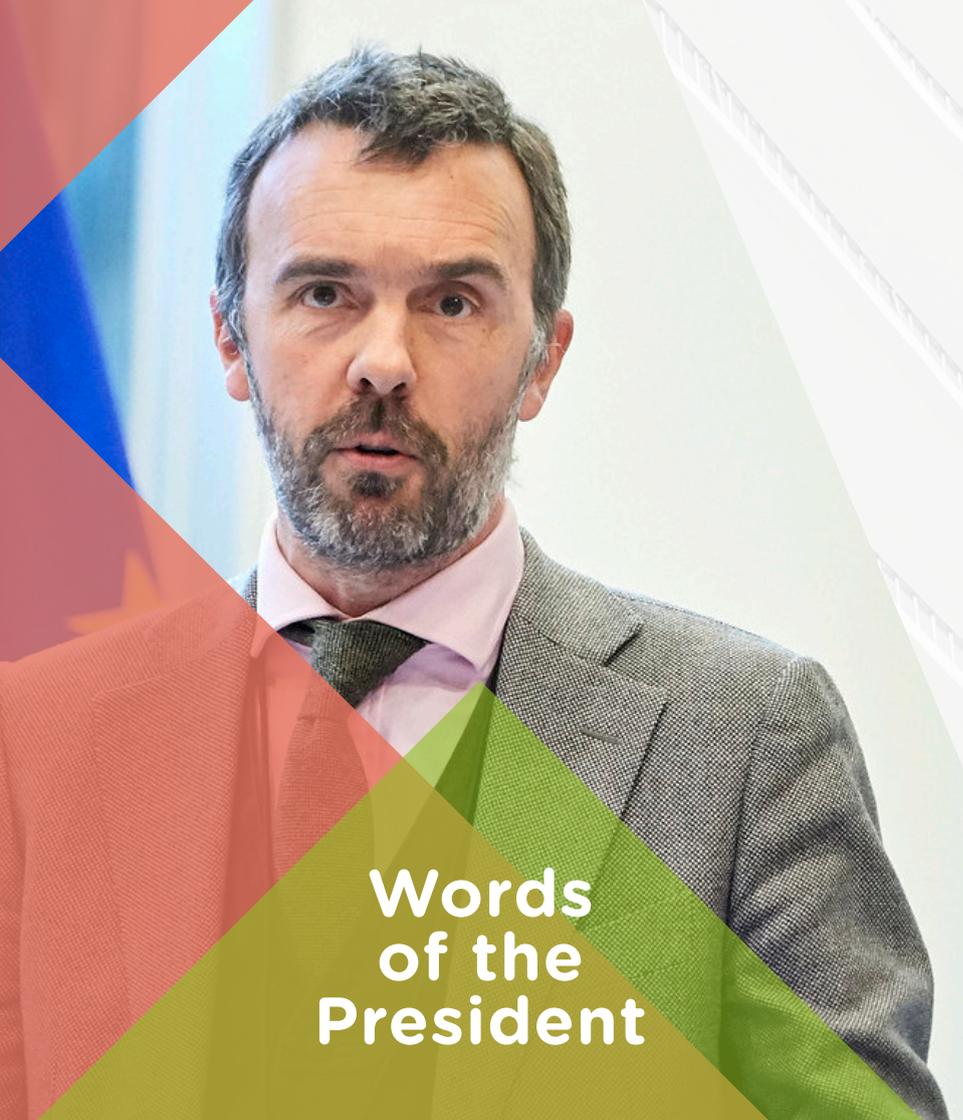


Annual Report

2019-2020





Words of the President

In last year's annual report, I underlined the role of the construction sector, the value it delivers to society and the need to integrate it at the heart of the European policy programme. With the COVID-19 crisis, our homes turned into offices, schools, gyms and even playgrounds for our children. Most of us went through an unexpected demonstration of how our buildings and infrastructure are crucial to our wellbeing.

Earlier in the year, the Von der Leyen Commission adopted its political programme, putting the "Green Deal" at the very centre and enshrining carbon neutrality in EU law in record time. And it is reassuring to see that construction and the built environment has not been left aside and forms an integral part of the broader policy framework, from the renewed industrial policy to the circular economy action plan and the climate law. And, I am proud to say that this is no coincidence! Construction Products Europe has worked relentlessly to relay the importance of the construction agenda and establish itself as the "one-stop shop" for construction-related issues. From organising monthly construction lunches with high-level guests to meeting decision-makers from across all EU institutions on the EU's renewed programme, Construction Product Europe is undeniably recognised as a reliable and insightful EU partner.

For all of us, the Covid19 crisis upset not only all planned activities, but the very core of our business. In that context, I am grateful to the secretariat and our members who never ceased their activities. In fact, Construction





Products Europe was at the forefront of the sector's engagement with the EU authorities since the beginning of the crisis. It led to numerous initiatives including direct engagement with the heads of all EU Institutions and online meetings with Commissioners Breton and Simson, all with the objective to underline the impact of the crisis on our industry and the role of our sector in the recovery period. This was in parallel to the ongoing agenda, which include the important review of the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) for which the Secretariat built a direct engagement line with the European Parliament's Internal Market Committee (IMCO). of the European Parliament. An important step was achieved with being the first organisation to invite Commission officials to discuss the concepts behind the Sustainable Built Environment Strategy foreseen for the summer of 2021.

Paraphrasing the latest communication from the Commission, as we "Repair and Prepare for the Next Generation" Construction Products Europe will continue to look ahead and deliver services to its industry at a time when we look forward to a full recovery and to delivering a sustainable built environment for all EU citizens. I thank once again the Secretariat and our members for their professionalism, dedication, and support.

Cédric de Meeûs



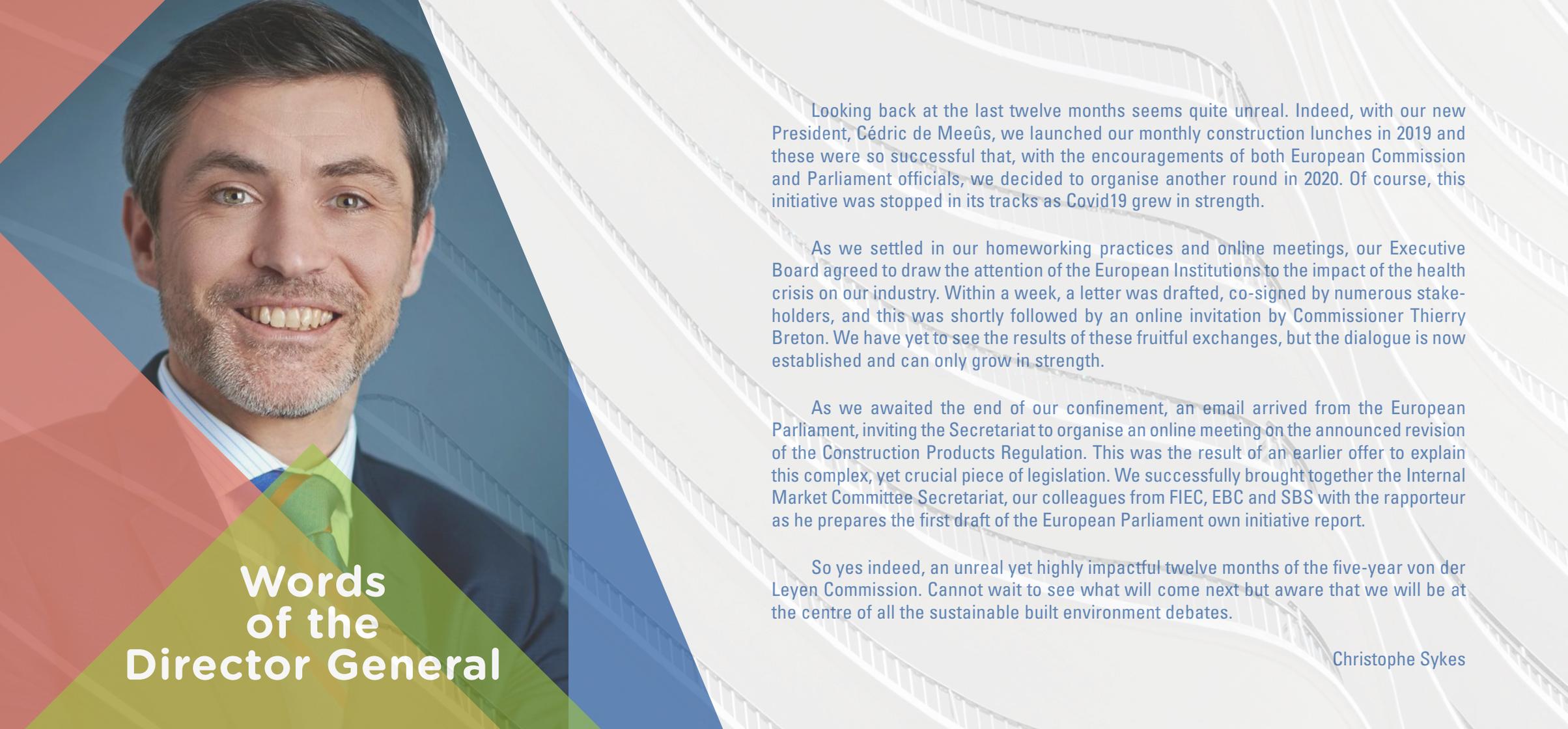
Words of the Vice-President

I have been with EU association for many years but never have we had access to higher echelons of the EU Institutions than during this health crisis. We may put this down to two facts, firstly our Secretariat brought together numerous and valuable partners; secondly, we had a Commissioner who was keen to listen to the industry and to act on its behalf. The road to recovery will be a long one but with such energy and coordination, I feel reassured that we have a winning combination.

We rarely have the opportunity to appreciate the work done in working groups by numerous company and association experts on such topics as sustainable assessment methods or CE marking. However, when production lines are switched off and workers made redundant, it is then that we see the full potential of our EU affairs professionals.

We will soon hear more from a recently formed EU 2050 Alliance, bringing close to 50 EU construction-related associations, that will promote efficient construction, affordable housing, and many more crucial topics. Again, our secretariat and members are at the core of this initiative and we wish the Alliance a lot of success in the months and years to come.

Heimo Scheuch



Words of the Director General

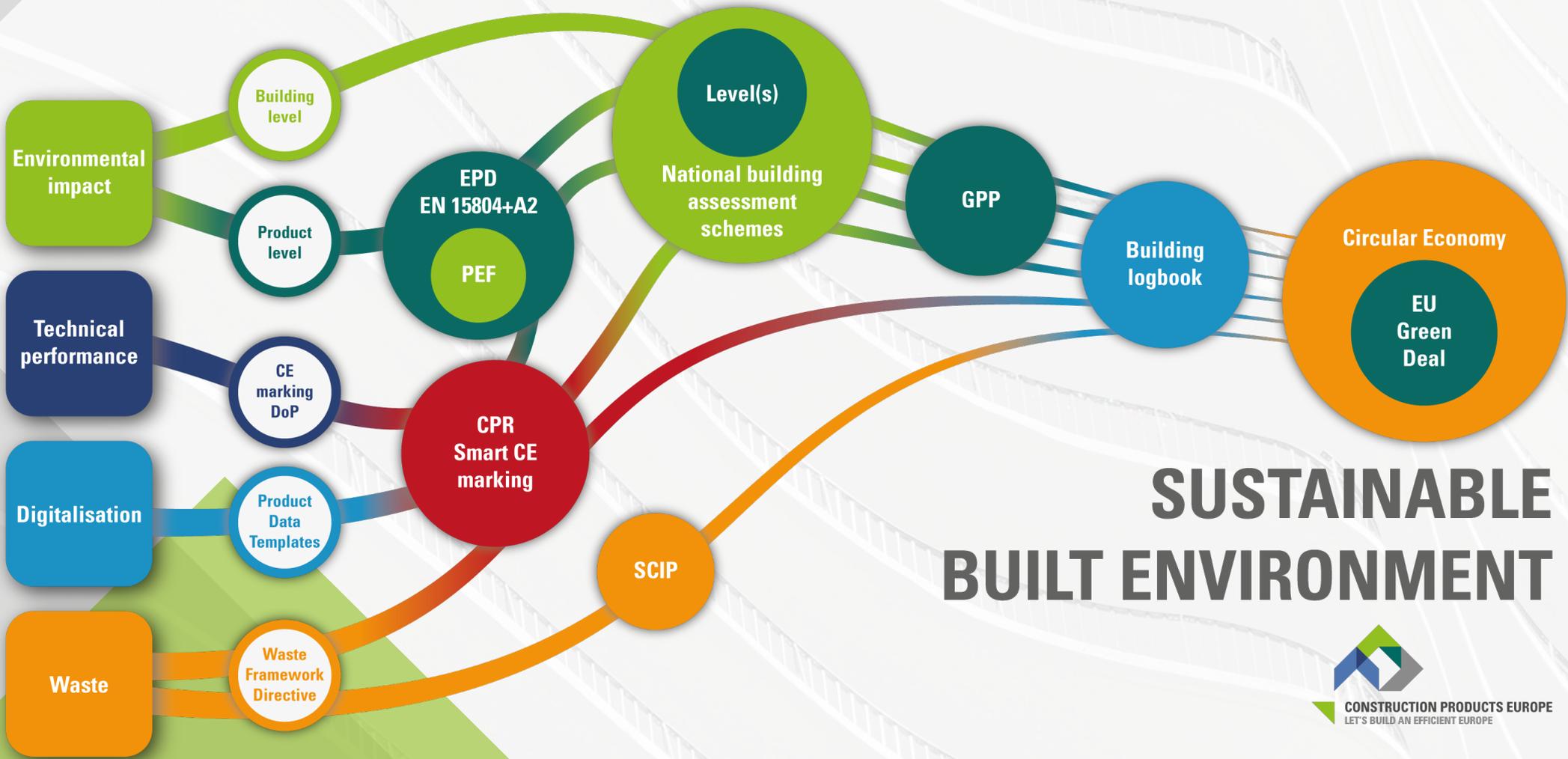
Looking back at the last twelve months seems quite unreal. Indeed, with our new President, Cédric de Meeûs, we launched our monthly construction lunches in 2019 and these were so successful that, with the encouragements of both European Commission and Parliament officials, we decided to organise another round in 2020. Of course, this initiative was stopped in its tracks as Covid19 grew in strength.

As we settled in our homeworking practices and online meetings, our Executive Board agreed to draw the attention of the European Institutions to the impact of the health crisis on our industry. Within a week, a letter was drafted, co-signed by numerous stakeholders, and this was shortly followed by an online invitation by Commissioner Thierry Breton. We have yet to see the results of these fruitful exchanges, but the dialogue is now established and can only grow in strength.

As we awaited the end of our confinement, an email arrived from the European Parliament, inviting the Secretariat to organise an online meeting on the announced revision of the Construction Products Regulation. This was the result of an earlier offer to explain this complex, yet crucial piece of legislation. We successfully brought together the Internal Market Committee Secretariat, our colleagues from FIEC, EBC and SBS with the rapporteur as he prepares the first draft of the European Parliament own initiative report.

So yes indeed, an unreal yet highly impactful twelve months of the five-year von der Leyen Commission. Cannot wait to see what will come next but aware that we will be at the centre of all the sustainable built environment debates.

Christophe Sykes



SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable built environment

- Construction Products Europe supports a whole life cycle, sustainability approach as key driver for the future of construction, including the EU Green Deal goals.
- Life cycle assessment (LCA) is a reliable methodology to quantify the environmental impacts of our built environment.
- For a great number of years, construction LCA standards have been used by the market as these offer reliable results, both in the short and long term, at product and at building level.
- LCA assessment of buildings is carried out in some Member States and is one of the deliverables of European Commission Level(s) methodology.
- Such assessments deliver complex data sets and digitalisation will offer solutions but would require harmonisation and interoperability at European level.
- Circular economy and LCA are complementary concepts that would require a single, harmonised European framework to support efficient decision-making at all competence levels.
- The information delivered by manufacturers must be used in the decision-making process at all stages of construction and building life cycle: design, construction, operation, and demolition.
- To reach circularity in construction, such horizontal issues as demolition, waste hierarchy, recyclability, secondary product markets, open and closed loops, traceability, end-of-life and dangerous substances will need to be addressed.
- Policies such as Green Public Procurement and sustainable financing, when harmonised at European level, may enable circular economy and decarbonisation within the construction value chain.

Communication key figures



587 LinkedIn followers
(**up 30%**)



2147 Twitter followers
(**up 9%**)



787 newsletter
subscribers (**up 3%**)



28 212 pageviews
(**up 15%**)



2.41 pages/session
(**up 2%**)

Thank you

